



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of
Matthew G. Howell

Application No.: 08/987,005

Filed: December 8, 1997

For: METHOD FOR
MANAGING CABLES

Group Art Unit: 3729

Examiner: B. Rusing, Jr.

Atty. Docket No.: MICE-0059-00-US
(97.02260.00)

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DEC 28 1999

Group 3700

Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Box AF
Washington, DC 20231

SUPPLEMENTAL REPLY TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

DATED SEPTEMBER 16, 1999

Dear Sir:

According to the Advisory Action mailed December 2, 1999, the amendments in the Reply to Final Office action filed on November 9, 1999 were not entered. The amendments contain herein place the application in condition for allowance by incorporating the limitations of claims 17 and 21 into independent claims 5 and 18. This conforms to the statement from the Examiner that dependent claims 17 and 21 are allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Please cancel claims 11, 12, 13, 17 and 21 without prejudice and amend claims 5 and 18 as follows:

5. (Amended Twice) A method for using a cable management device capable of carrying and at least partially concealing a length of cable, the device having a tray with a notch at an upper portion and a notch at a lower portion of the tray and a cover, the method comprising:

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I hereby certify under 37 CFR 1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.
Corey McGowan

mounting the tray, the lower portion of the tray comprising a groove underneath the lower portion notch;

arranging the length of cable in the tray including laying the length of cable along the groove;

~~CX~~ determining if the notch at the upper portion of the tray is to be used to pass the length of cable and, (if so) routing the length of cable through the upper portion notch; and closing the cover on the tray.

sub E27 18. (Amended Twice) A method for using a cable management device to hold and to at least partially conceal a length of cable positioned along a floor at a corner between the floor and a wall, the device having a tray with an upper portion and a lower portion and a cover, each portion having at least one notch, the method comprising:

(a) mounting the tray in a corner between the floor and the wall, the lower portion of the tray comprising a groove underneath the lower portion notch;

(b) arranging the length of cable in the tray alongside the wall including laying the length of cable along the groove on the floor;

(c) determining if the notch at the upper portion of the tray is to be used to pass the length of cable and, (if so) routing the length of cable through the upper portion notch; and

(d) closing the cover on the tray.

~~CX~~

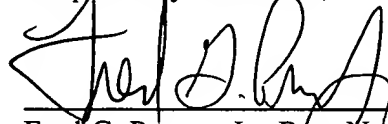
CONCLUSION

In summary, the Assignee requests entry of these amendments and a favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance. Please credit any overpayments and charge any additional fees to Deposit Account No. 20-1504 (MICE-0059-00).

12/16/99

Date

Respectfully submitted,



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